

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

In the Drawing Figures:

Figures 1 and 2 have been labeled --BACKGROUND ART—, and

Figures 3, 4A, 4B, and 5-8 has been amended to label front wall 4f, side walls 4s, and openings 4p of the tray 4, and to label front wall 6f, side walls 6s, and openings 6p of the roller shelf 6.

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-12, 14-25, and 33-36 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 19 and 33 are independent. Claims 13 and 26-32 were previously canceled. Claims 35 and 36 have been added. Claims 1, 9, 18, and 33 have been amended.

Consideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Proposed Drawing Amendments

Applicant submits herewith, proposed drawing corrections to Figures 1 and 2. Figures 1 and 2 have been labeled --BACKGROUND ART. In addition, Figures 3, 4A, 4B, and 5-8 have been amended to label front wall 4f, side walls 4s, and openings 4p of the tray 4, and to label front wall 6f, side walls 6s, and openings 6p of the roller shelf 6. No new matter has been entered.

Amendments to the Specification

Paragraph [0042] of the specification has been amended to provide antecedent basis for elements designated by reference numerals and shown in the Figures.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and §103(a)

Claim 33 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Holt et al. (U.S. 563,048), and claims 1-12, 14-18, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as

being unpatentable over Holt et al. in view of Wennlund (U.S. 2,610,035). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejections, but merely to advance prosecution of the present application, independent claim 1 has been amended herein to recite a combination of elements directed to a storage unit with a rolling tray arrangement "wherein the plurality of rollers are mounted in a manner so as to project partially through openings formed in the lower portion of the storage unit and a surface of the roller shelf."

In addition, independent claim 33 has been amended herein to recite a combination of elements directed to a storage unit with a rolling tray arrangement "wherein the tray includes a flat plate-shaped bottom, a front wall, and side walls extending rearwardly from ends of the front wall, the front wall and the side walls extending upwardly from the flat plate-shaped bottom of the tray."

The Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of elements as set forth in each of independent claims 1 and 33 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Holt et al. and Welllund.

As can be seen in FIGS 7-8 of Holt et al., this document merely discloses a roller 691 projecting through a opening in a pair of tray guides 690. In addition, the shelf of Holt et al. fails to include front and side walls on shelf 530.

As for the Welllund reference, this document merely discloses a plurality of rollers 38 extending between bearing blocks 37c, 37d of the door 20, the bearing blocks extending above the top surface of the door 20 when the door is open.

Thus, no combination of Holt et al. and Wellund can teach or suggest the combinations, as claimed “wherein the plurality of rollers are mounted in a manner so as to project partially through openings formed in the lower portion of the storage unit and a surface of the roller shelf” (as set forth in claim 1 of the present invention); and “wherein the tray includes a flat plate-shaped bottom, a front wall, and side walls extending rearwardly from ends of the front wall, the front wall and the side walls extending upwardly from the flat plate-shaped bottom of the tray” (as set forth in claim 33 of the present invention).

At least for the reasons described above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in each of independent claims 1 and 33 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Holt et al. and Wellund. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Independent claims 1 and 33 are now in condition for allowance

Dependent Claims

The Examiner will note that dependent claims 9 and 18 have been amended and claims 35 and 36 have been added.

All dependent claims are in condition for allowance due to their dependency from allowable independent claims, as well as for the additional limitations set forth therein.

All claims of the present application are now in condition for allowance.

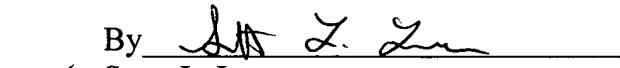
CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at 703-205-8000, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: June 2, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Four sheets of Replacement Drawings